




Short Story: The Chronicles of Harris Burdick

More than 25 years ago, a man named Peter Wenders was visited by a stranger who introduced himself as Harris Burdick and who left behind 14 fascinating drawings with equally if not more fascinating captions, promising to return the next day with more illustrations and the stories to match. Mr. Wenders never saw him again...
 – Lemony Snicket, *The Chronicles of Harris Burdick*

A=81+
B=72-80
C=63-71
D=54-62
F=53-

/90
Points

<p>Assignment: For the past 25 years, the 14 illustrations of Harris Burdick have left readers puzzled. Now, a group of well-known writers has been selected to create short stories for each of Burdick's illustrations. The collection will be published under the title <i>The Chronicles of Harris Burdick</i>. The selection committee has selected <i>you</i> to join this prestigious group! Your assignment is to select 1 of Burdick's illustrations & craft a short story. Your story should incorporate the elements of a short story you learned about in this unit.</p>	<p>You hit the bullseye... like Katniss Everdeen! You effectively incorporate the criteria demonstrating that you are an advanced writer. Your reader was amazed at your skill!</p>  <p>The narrative effectively incorporates...</p>	<p>Good, but you can dig deeper... like the guys in <i>Holes</i>. You incorporate the criteria, but your reader wanted you to dig deeper. Take your writing to the next level.</p>  <p>The narrative incorporates...</p>	<p>Pretty wimpy... like Greg. You left out criteria. Your reader was left feeling confused & disappointed.</p>  <p>The narrative is missing...</p>
<p>Focus: My story <i>clearly connects to & draws from</i> the illustration with the caption incorporated in the story's plot.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Conflict: My conflict provides a problem or struggle in the story. The conflict is the focus of the story's plot development.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Exposition: My exposition provides the reader with the background information needed to understand the story, including info about the setting & characters.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Rising Action: My rising action provides the major events surrounding the conflict & leads up to the climax.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Climax: My climax provides the turning point of the story.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Falling Action/Resolution: My falling action provides the events after the climax & helps bring the story to its resolution, which provides the outcome of the conflict & ties up loose ends.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Characterization: I develop my main character through the action, description, & dialogue used in my story.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Writing Conventions: I <i>show control of writing conventions</i>. I use correct spelling, punctuation, capitalization, & language.</p>	10	8	6
<p>Evidence of the Writing Process: My work shows that I <i>intentionally</i> went through the stages of the writing process. I made revisions to my work so that my final draft was the best it could be.</p>	10	8	6

